SAN FRANCISCO HISTORY ROOM

• ASIAN AMERICAN UNION FEDERATION
• THE LOST SPLENDOR OF YUAN MING YUAN
• A CHINESE AMERICAN WINEMAKING ENGINEER

EAST WEST 東西報

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Voting Rights Act Awaits Senate Debate

SAN FRANCISCO — The extension of the Voting Rights Act overwhelmingly cleared the House of Representatives early this month, but an even greater challenge lies ahead this winter, when the Senate takes up the issue.

The House's vote of 389-24 on HR 3112, extended until 1992 the provision requiring bilingual registration and election materials in areas with large non-English-speaking populations, and extended permanently the preclearance provision, which requires states with a past history of discrimination to submit any changes in their election laws to the Justice Dept. for approval. (*E/W* 9/17/81, 5/27/81)

ABSENT

The act is due to expire in August, 1982, and the bilingual elections provisions in 1985. Hearings on the Senate version of the extension bill are scheduled to begin Jan. 13 and continue through the end of February.

Rep. John Burton (D-SF) was one of the 20 congressmen absent when the House voted on extending the act. According to his office here, Burton was out working in his district and missed his flight back to Washington. In order to go on record as having supported the extension, he paired his vote with Rep. John Ashbrook (R-Ohio) who opposed the bill. By pairing, the two Congressmen essentially negated each other's votes.

The House vote gave civil rights groups one of their first victories since President Reagan's inauguration, but response in the Senate is not expected to be as favorable.

President Reagan, who had largely reserved comment on the act, is now leaning towards weakening amendments of the bill when it is discussed by the Senate, the *Washington Post* reported yesterday.

Believing that some of the provisions of the bill approved by the House early this month are "pretty extreme, " Reagan is considering an amendment that would require the government to prove not only that minorities were excluded from public office or denied the right to vote by local officials. but also that the officials intended the discrimination, an aide told the Post. Such an "intent" amendment would change the current requirement of proving that actions resulted in discrimination, and would make such allegations considerably tougher to prove.

Reagan is also said to be contemplating an amendment on the issue of "bailout," under which a jurisdiction might be allowed to exempt itself from provisions of the law after several years of good conduct. Reagan is expected to meet with the Cabinet next week to discuss his recommendations, and his counsel Fred Fielding said it is "premature" to predict his recommendations, although he did confirm that Reagan is considering an "intent" amendment.

"We thought it was great — fantastic that the act got such an overwhelming response in the House," a spokesman for Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) said. "But it will be an uphill battle in the Senate, with Strom Thurmond as chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He's no friend of civil rights."

Cranston is a co-sponsor of SA 95, the Senate's extension bill, and, according to his spokesman Enrique Valenzuela, he will support the voting rights act vigorously. However, with 46 Democrats to 53 Republicans, the Senate is a "different arena" from the House, and Valenzuela predicted that "support will probably not be as strong."

CRIPPLING

It is too early to tell where the amendments will come from, he added, but the House first had to defeat several amendments that would have weakened the act, and it is likely that "crippling amendments" will be proposed in the Senate as well.

California's Republican Senator S.I. Hayakawa, is an outspoken opponent of bilingualism, and according to spokeswoman Sande Conlan, intends to lead the fight in the Senate against bilingual elections.

Jurisdictions in 30 states are required to provide bilingual ballots to non-limited-English-speaking citizens, and in California 39 counties must print ballots in Chinese, Spanish and American Indian languages. According to Hayakawa, this policy is not only costly, but delays immigrants' entry into the mainstream of American society.

"Are we telling immigrants that they must know English to become a citizen but that they don't need it once naturalized?" he wrote recently in a *New York Times* column supporting his proposal to make English the official language of the US.

According to Conlan, Hayakawa intends to support extension of the general Voting Rights Act, but not of the bilingual elections provisions.

To many Chinese- and Spanish-speaking citizens, however, the act's bilingual provisions are as important as the rest of the act,

Continued on page 2

Police Check Rumors of C'town Teahouse Robbery

SAN FRANCISCO — Police are still working on a three-and-a-half-week investigation of a rumored robbery in a Chinatown teahouse. According to Inspector John McKenna of the SFPD's Gang Task Force, numerous calls have been received telling of a robbery in a Chinatown teahouse, with the location and details of the incident varying, but nothing substantial has yet been uncovered.

"We've interviewed managers of many teahouses, many of whom have reported incidents to us and cooperated with us in the past. All have emphatically denied such an incident," McKenna reported.

"This has been going on for about three and a half weeks. Right now we're at a stalemate. We would like to hear from a victim. So far, we've only heard rumors, and no victim has come in," he said. Victims or others with information on the alleged robbery may call McKenna at 553-1401.

DETAILS

Although to date nothing concrete has been uncovered on the details of the alleged robbery, McKenna noted that it is different from similar events several years ago when a series of teahouse robberies were reported. At that time, there existed problems of growth and competition within the market, and some houses were experiencing labor/management problems but such is not now the case, he explained.

In another Chinatown police matter, 20-year-old Phillip Chan, a "known associate" of a local gang, was arrested last week in connection with an October 11 assault upon a couple visiting from Louisiana. The incident began as the couple boarded a taxi in front of the Empress of China building and Chan and a companion began cursing and tailgating the taxi, and ended with Chan allegedly smashing a shotgun over the man's left eye, calling for 100 stitches. Still lacking a motive for the incident, police do not view the incident as the result of any ongoing change in strategy among youth gangs, who usually fight among themselves.

Police are also investigating the recent robbery of Tin Fook Jewlers, McKenna said. They have checked with Los Angeles police to see if the robbers might be the same as those recently active in LA's Chinatown, but McKenna said that they appear to be different. □

Lillian Kwok Sing Sworn In As SF Municipal Judge

Lillian Kwok Sing was sworn in as an SF Municipal Court judge last Thursday afternoon. US District Court Judge Marilyn Patel (l) performed the swearing-in ceremony.

Sing, who received her law degree from Hastings College of Law in 1975, leaves behind a law practice and has resigned from her positions as an SF Community College trustee. (Photo by Leland Wong)

Minorities Attack Affirmative Action at Universal Studios

LOS ANGELES — A coalition of minority groups has filed a complaint with the Department of Labor contract compliance office charging Universal Studios with discrimination against minorities in hiring and promotion practices. The charge is now being investigated, and if it is substantiated, the studio and its parent conglomerate, MCA, could lose their federal contracts.

Including blacks, Latinos, Asian Americans and Native Americans, the coalition, Intercultural Media Action Guild for Equity (IMAGE), has charged that "racist and exclusionary practices" in the television and film industry in general, and in particular, Universal and Paramount Pictures, have prevented qualified minorities from equal employment opportunities before and behind the cameras.

HALF-HEARTED

The investigation is being conducted through the federal contract compliance office, which maintains affirmative action program requirements, because MCA-Universal currently manages federal parks through its recreational services division and operates NewVentures, a subsidiary meant to foster minority film projects, using federal funds channeled through the Small Business Administration.

IMAGE derided the New Ventures operation, for which each dollar invested by the company is matched by three dollars from the SBA, as a "malnourished, half-hearted attempt" that "looks very good on paper, but has, in fact, been nothing but a smokescreen set up to quiet the restless ethnics," the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

The Department of Labor investigation of Universal Studios is expected to be completed by the end of November; an investigation of Paramount is pending determination of the studio's status as a government contractor.

The federal regulations governing affirmative action requirements of companies receiving large government grants, such as is the case with Universal, were recently re-evaluated by the Department of Labor and will probably be somewhat relaxed as revision proposals take effect by the end of this month. □

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Voting Rights

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which was enacted in 1965 to end discrimination against southern blacks. Yet it is the bilingual provision that has stimulated some of the strongest criticism of the act.

OUTCRY

"Since enactment of the bilingual elections amendment in 1975 many of the major SF Bay Area newspapers and broadcast stations have unfairly and cruelly attacked the law itself, non-English speaking voters and sympathetic congressional leaders," Henry Der, executive director of Chinese for Affirmative Action said.

"There has been a huge public outcry from persons who are either ignorant or hostile to the plight of non-English speaking citizens for the US Congress to repeal the federal requirement of bilingual elections," Der continued, noting that "it was no small act of courage and dedication" for Rep. Don Edwards (D-Calif.), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights, to urge passage of the extension.

After a series of Registrars of Voters opposed to bilingual elections, SF is presently under a federal court-ordered consent decree to develop and implement an outreach plan to register Chinese and Hispanic citizens, to provide bilingual poll assistance, and to distribute bilingual election materials, Der noted.

"Chinese American citizens are interested in political candidates and issues affecting their daily lives and should be given the adequate opportunity to register to vote and understand the issues in a comprehensible language," he said.

CAA testified before Edwards' subcommittee, and intends to provide "the same level of expert testimony" on the Voting Rights Act's impact on the Chinese American community when the Senate holds its hearings this winter, Der added.

"It is imperative for concerned citizens to urge Pres. Reagan to adopt a firm stand to support HR 3112," he said. □

Contest Selects C'town Healthy Baby of Year

SAN FRANCISCO — Chinatown's Healthy Baby of the Year will be chosen tomorrow at 10 am at a contest sponsored by Health Center 4 and the Chinese Newcomers Service Center.

The ten contestants were chosen from babies at the health center's Well Baby Clinic — whose parents attend child health classes — based on a point system that measured the infants' health records and the parents' class attendance. Tomorrow's winner will be chosen based on five community judges' evaluation of each parent's response to a randomly selected question on health care.

The winning baby will receive a trophy, a $100 savings account, baby photos donated by Patrick Wong studios and other gifts. First, second and third runners-up and honorable mention winners will also be chosen.

Portions of the event will be aired on Channel 26's "Community Talk Show" Sunday evening, Oct. 25. It will take place at Health Center 4, 1490 Mason St. Seating is limited, and free tickets are available at Chinese Newcomers, 816 Sacramento St. □

Kearny Street Workshop Gives Check to Manilatown Sen.Center

Greg Soone of the Kearny Street Workshop last Friday presented a check for $1,100 to Noreen Chen from Self-help for the Elderly's meals program, Margaret Muyco and Al Robles from Manilatown Senior Center. The money was raised at an Asian American Jazz Festival sponsored by the Kearny Street Workshop in August at Fort Mason.

The Manilatown Center, which will move to the Clayton Hotel site at 651 Clay St. after renovations are completed, will be moving to the Mabuhay Gardens on Broadway at the end of the month. The Mabuhay Gardens, which is now a punk rock disco by night, will house daytime activities and meals programs of the Manilatown Senior Center.

(Photo by Leland Wong)

EDITORIAL

The Healthy Baby Contest

The Chinese American community has its share of beauty contests and carnivals, many of which, though professing to promote worthy ideas, are often criticized for lacking meaning or being exploitative. Such is not, however, the case with the Chinatown Healthy Baby Contest sponsored by Chinese Newcomers Service Center and Health Center 4.

Promoting an awareness of health and nutrition, the contest will select the healthiest baby, based not only on the baby's health but also on the pariticipation of the parents in health education classes. The child will not become an instant celebrity or future star, nor will the parents be receiving financial gain, but all will benefit from the time and care devoted to studying health and nutrition.

We applaud the efforts of Chinese Newcomers Service Center and Health Center 4 to promote the health of children through their classes and this contest. Although only ten babies will be selected for awards, all the babies, and the entire community, will benefit from the improved understanding of health and nutrition.

AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE TO EAST/WEST

East/West is an independent journal for the Chinese American community. Through its pages, we hope to discuss issues relevant to the community, report on events, and challenge Chinese Americans to take an active role in American life.

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LETTERS

Cultural Anomaly In *Thousand Pieces of Gold?*

To *East/West:*

Judy Yung's review (*E/W* Oct. 7, 1981) of *Thousand Pieces of Gold* is fascinating. Undoubtedly many Chinese Americans will enjoy reading it and will be elated to know that one of their uneducated countrywomen could be so courageous and could contribute, even in a small way, to the history of Westward Expansion.

I believe also that many readers will notice the cultural anomalies in the novel. Anyone who has an inkling of Chinese culture cannot believe that Lalu Nathoy was sold by her starving family to the bandits. No Chinese bandits would have any compunction to rob the rich and poor of their wealth, food and women. To say someone traded with the bandits was as credible as to relate he "negotiated with the tiger for his hide." Moreover, the poor would have no difficulty or qualms to sell their daughters directly to the houses of pleasure.

Ruthanne McCunn in her prepublication release wrote: "When Lalu arrives in San Francisco, she is stripped and placed on an auction block where she is sold to Hong King —" That is incredible! Doesn't the author know that female nudenesss is a Chinese cultural taboo? And as interested in Chinese American history as she seems to be, she should know in Lalu's time Chinese women were so scarce and precious that her master in the Mountains of Gold must already have been decided before she left the Chinese shores.

One may argue that the cultural contradictions do not affect the entertainment value of the novel, and therefore, why all the fuss? True, but the novel is intended not only for entertainment, but it aims to trace Chinese American history, to commend the Chinese for their contribution to the development of the West, and to foster some ethnocentrism in the minds of those who doubt the value of their Chinese heritage. For these reasons I believe that *Thousand Pieces of Gold*, or any book concerning Chinese, should not contain any Chinese cultural anomaly.

Charles F. Chao
Oakland

(*Ruthanne Lum McCunn, author of* Thousand Pieces of Gold, *responds to Charles Chao's comments below. —Ed.*)

As noted in the introduction to *Thousand Pieces of Gold*, the information on which this biographical novel is based came from manuscripts, newspapers, books, and inteviews. Some of these interviews were conducted with Lalu Nathoy/Polly Bemis during her lifetime.

When asked how she came to be in America, she consistently repeated the same story. The particular region of China where she lived had suffered from years of drought and banditry. Her father sold her to a bandit leader for seed. She was taken to Shanghai and shipped to America where she was auctioned off in San Francisco and then taken up to Warrens, Idaho, via Portland.

Like Charles Chao, I found it incredible that she was sold to bandits. After all, bandits by their very definition take what they please without payment. However, as Lalu Nathoy/Polly Bemis' biographer, I could not take it upon myself to contradict her own statements on her life. I could only reconstruct the story in as plausible a manner as possible.

With reference to the manner in which the Chinese slave traffic was conducted, I was as taken aback as Mr. Chao to discover the humiliating manner in which the women and girls were treated. However, I stand by my portrayal of this ugly chapter in Chinese American history, and I refer Mr. Chow to my sources: "Pigtails and Gold Dust" by Alexander McLeod, "Chinese Slavery in America" by Charles Frederick Holder (North American Review), and "Chinese Slave Girls" by (Mrs.) E. V. Robbins (Overland Monthly), to name but three.

Ruthanne Lum McCunn
San Francisco □

Thousand Pieces of Gold *is available from East/West Book Service, 838 Grant Ave., Suite 307, SF 94108, at $10.95 per hardcover, and $5.95 per paperback, plus one $1 postage/handling.*

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Photographers: Leland Wong and Nancy Wong.

China Factions Retain Tong War Mentality

To East/West:

LA's Chinese American community is a disgrace! Owing to its own internecine harangue, City Hall's programmed entire "House of Cards," regarding its bannered international triutes, has now been toppled.

"Thanks," and unfortunately due to Chinatown's continuing and self-serving civil strife, *all* nations henceforth will be banned from exercising a heritage-honoring, flag-raising ritual.

In these modern times, both of the rival China factions are seemingly still possessed of an ages-past "tong-war" mentality.

Don Way
Los Angeles

EDD Starts Out-Station at Chinese Newcomers Center

SAN FRANCISCO — Even without its telephone installed, the Employment Development Department's (EDD) out-station in Chinatown has been seeing up to 50 persons a day since it opened Oct. 1.

The out-station, located in the Chinese Newcomers Service Center at 816 Sacramento St., partially replaces EDD's Chinatown branch office, which was forced to close as a result of federal budget cutbacks. (*E/W* 6/24/81) Community protest could not save the branch office, and the Chinatown staff was moved to EDD's parent office at 1449 Mission St. The out-station is an attempt to continue meeting Chinatown's needs.

"It's better than coming here," former Chinatown branch supervisor Christopher C. Chi, who is now on Mission Street, said. "1449 Mission St. is out of the way, and only handles professionals and office workers. For industrial and service jobs, such as in hotels and restaurants, they'd have to go all the way to 3120 Mission."

REFERRALS

The Chinatown out-station accepts applications and makes job referrals, mostly in the Chinatown area or to Chinese-speaking employers, Chi said, and has listings in all occupations. At first staffed by only one EDD employee, it quickly expanded to two bilingual staffers in order to serve the many clients streaming into the out-station.

The Chinatown branch previously had a staff of 20 and served 700-1,000 clients a month, Chi said.

"Quite a few people are going to the out-station," Chi said. "Some people who come in to use the Newcomers Service Center then come over and look for jobs." The staff at the out-station works independently of the staff at the main office, he added.

The one major problem at the out-station is that its phone has not yet been connected. EDD is transferring the former branch phone number over to the out-station, and Chi expects the connection to go through any day now. When connected the out-station's phone number will be the same as the former Chinatown branch office, 557-2730.

"That should make it easier for people to contact us," Chi said. Job-seekers are also welcome to drop in at the out-station, for information of referrals. □

China Again Aims to Develop Heavy Industry

BEIJING — In a marked shift from the past year's policy of cutting back on heavy industry, China announced recently that it is planning to stimulate growth in some of its now-stagnant industrial sectors.

Next year's development plans call for more raw materials and investment funds in capital construction, plant renovation, and increasing demand for the steel, non-ferrous metal, machine building and other industries. It is hoped that this will stimulate overall industrial growth, which was only 0.8% in the first half of the year compared with the same period in 1980, the *Los Angeles Times* reported.

Wan Li, senior vice premier who heads the readjustment program, told a visiting Japanese delegation recently that the shifts do not represent a fundamental change in China's economic strategy, but rather an attempt to match China's ever-changing economic situation and achieve a balance between light and heavy industrial development.

SLOWDOWN

The growth of light industry producing consumer goods has slowed to 12% this year, form the past rate of 18%. Chinese officials attribute the slowdown to the lack of modern machinery in the factories, the lack of sufficient energy resources and an inadequate transportation system — all of which are dependent on heavy industry for development, the *Times* reported.

Restraints on some sectors of heavy industry that have led to an 8% drop in the first half of this year have already been eased, but the impact of the drop in production has been far-reaching.

China's heavy industries, with production down, are able to remit less in taxes and profits to the national treasury. Not only are no new jobs created, but there have been layoffs in crowded urban areas where most heavy industry is located. In addition, the number of unprofitable industries has increased because economic reforms have been delayed as part of the restraints on heavy industry.

"The development of light industry needs a supply of more and advanced equipment from heavy industry," vice premier Bo Yibo said. "Advanced equipment also is needed for the expansion of coal, petroleum and hydroelectric power industries, and some equipment imported during the 1950s should be replaced." □

LA Museum Shows Five China Films

LOS ANGELES — Five films from China will be shown Nov. 6-8 at the LA County Museum of Art. The films, which are sponsored in association with the American Film Institute and the National Committee on US-China Relations, date from 1959 to 1980.

Friday, Nov. 6 at 8 pm, *Second Spring Mirroring the Moon* (1979) and *Third Sister Liu* (1961) will be shown. *Two Stage Sisters* (1964) and *Bus Number 3* (1980) will be shown Saturday, Nov. 7 at 8 pm; and *Song of Youth* (1959) will be shown Sunday, Nov. 8 at noon.

Tickets are $4; $2 for students and museum or film institute members. They may be purchased one hour prior to showtime at the Bing Theater Ticket Desk, or in advance at the museum. Mail orders are also accepted — checks should be made payable to the LA County Museum of Art and a stamped, self-addressed envelope should be enclosed. Inquiries may be addressed to the museum at 5905 Wilshire Blvd., LA, 90036, or by calling (213) 857-6202. □

SEND EAST/WEST TO A FRIEND

India Cancels China Visit

NEW DELHI — What would have been the first visit to China by a group of Indian legislators since the two nations fought a border war in 1962 was cancelled by the Indian Parliament last week, after a new controversy arose over disputed territory on the India-China border.

The Indian delegation was to have attended a United Nations-sponsored conference on population and development for Asian Parliament members.

SOVEREIGNITY

The dispute began when China refused to issue a visa for T. L. Rajkumar, a delegate from the Aunachal Pradesh region in northeastern India, an area China claims. The Chinese said granting the visa would have amounted to recognizing India's sovereignity in the area, the *New York Times* reported.

Delegation leader Satpal Mittal charged China with "seeking to dictate the choice of our delegation, interference in our internal affairs and mixing politics with economic issues." A Foreign Ministry spokesman told the *Times* that the government was not involved in the dispute, but rather that the delegation had to decide to cancel the visit on their own.

Despite a visit to India last July by Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua, dates for negotiating conflicting territorial claims have not yet been fixed, and Indian officials did not visit Beijing in September for talks, as had been agreed upon last summer.

The two nations went to war in 1962, disputing claims to vast tracts of territory along their 2,500-mile Hamalayan border. □

Berkeley Alumni Honor Roy Gock

BERKELEY — Roy Gock, a civil engineer for the Alameda County Flood Control District, has been elected as a member of the governing council of the University of California, Berkeley, Alumni Association.

Gock, a 1947 graduate of UC Berkeley, is a member and past president of the Chinese chapter of the Alumni Association. He lives in Berkeley. □

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Cathay Club Celebrates Seventieth Anniversary

The Cathay Club participated in the 1948 Portola Festival.

SAN FRANCISCO — Memories of marching bands, silk costumes and the shared joy of making music are certain to dominate the festivities Oct. 31 when the Cathay Club celebrates its 70th anniversary.

"We got together for the love of music — we got together and we stuck together," former band member Wilson Wong said. Today the club is purely social, but in its heyday, the band traveled across the US as well as making frequent appearances in SF and the Bay Area.

The band started in 1911, when a group of boys aged 10-16 gathered in a candy store on the corner of Stockton and Clay and came up with a plan to start the first western music band in Chinatown. With the help of the China Six Companies, the boys acquired instruments and uniforms, and on Oct. 9, 1911 became the first Chinese boys band in the West.

PARADES

"It was the only activity and at that time there weren't any delinquents," said George Fong, who like Wong joined the band in the 1930s. "We played in our high school bands and in Chinatown," he said, and the Cathay Band appeared in all the parades.

More than 1,000 boys have passed through the ranks of the Cathay Band, and for Wong, Fong, and George Gum, another former band member, that experience marked an important part of growing up.

"So many people would come out to see us," Gum recalls. "And we wore beautiful costumes. Back in those days Grant Ave. was so narrow that people would be reaching out to touch our costumes as we marched and I couldn't play my instrument!"

The club marched in its last parade in 1962, and since then has evolved in a social club. "We're getting too tired to march around," Wong joked. "At our last parade someone had to help the bass drum player carry the bass up the hill!" In addition, Wong added, interest in band music has declined, and there are fewer parades in SF than there used to be.

Now the 100 members of the Cathay Club have time to "travel and do other things," Wong continued. The 70th anniversary celebration will be held at the Empress of China restaurant, and members interested in attending may call Wilson Wong at 982-1299 for information. □

WINDS EXPRESS GOURMET TOUR

The best way to discover the Orient is to visit the most popular destinations through a gourmet tour. If you have ever dreamt of enjoying a vacation with a fine combination of culinary experiences, touring, and leisure time, this is the trip for you. This special 18-day tour will begin Dec. 5th on Japan Airlines and Gayle Chan, Chinese cooking teacher in the Bay Area, will personally guide you on her third gourmet tour of Taipei, Hong Kong and Canton. Participants will be able to experience foods of many regions and take cooking classes. This is a truly exciting way to discover the Orient. Remember, there is some flexibility, and we may be able to tailor certain portions of the trip to your needs and accommodations. We welcome all inquires. Please call for more details and reservations. Jean Tsai of Winds Express, Inc. 495-5815 or Gayle Chan, 751-8378.

CHINESE WORD-A-DAY

"BACK"

Two men sitting back-to-back on a table is the Chinese work"back

"Do you know why they are so mad?"

No, I don't. Maybe they burnt their rice or chopped the wrong suey.

"Back heart" is a vest. "Back scenery" is the background. "Back read" is to recite from memory when you turn your back to the book. There used to be a lot of "back reading" in the old Chinese schools. Scholars prided themselves on the number of passages or books that they could memorize. Legend has it that some genius was even able to recite a book forward and backward. (Don't worry, friends. If we see such a person running loose on the streets these days, we will put him right back in the asylum.)

"Back" also means to carry something on one's back. From this we know that "back thing" means to carry things, and "back person" means to carry a person on your back. "Back horse" is to saddle a horse. "Back ribbon" is a suspender. "Hand back" is the back of the hand, but "back hand" means to place the hands behind the back. (Sorry, it is not what you think, tennis players.)

Mandarin BEI — Cantonese BOOEE

When a person leaves his home town, the Chinese say, "back well leave village, " meaning that the person is going away from the native well.

This is interesting. It didn't say anything about turning your back to your folks, nor your house, nor your pets, nor your friends, but your well.

It is not that the Chinese are particularly sentimental about water. It is only because the well is so much a part of life: It provides water for drinking, washing, and irrigation; it provides natural refrigeration for food; it provides a gathering spot where people can come to get their water and gossip; and sometimes, when things go wrong and there is no river nearby, it also offers a convenient place for people to take their lives.

Don't try it, you may end up in China.

By Gordon Lew

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Tianjin's Peking Opera Troupe Visits San Francisco

By MICHAEL LAM

SAN FRANCISCO — A day before the SF première of the Peking Opera Troupe of Tianjin, three of the main actors met with *East/West*. The conversation was informal, the atmosphere relaxed.

Li Li, who in a few days will be trasnformed inao an all-singing, all-dancing Goddess of the Hua Mountain, sat quietly in her hotel room in the warm Monday afternoon, and commented on the fairy tale in which she is starring.

CRUCIAL

"We are very excited to present *The Magic Lotus Lantern*," she said. "If I am not mistaken, this is the first time a full-length singing opera has been brought to the Western audience.

"One always believes that an audience who is unfamiliar with the Peking Opera will find anything but 'Monkey Plays' hard to accept, since the lyrics, which are one of the most crucial elements, will not be understood. But we think that it is about time to introduce *real* opera to the West, to correct the misconception that all Peking operas are acrobatics plus circus. It is risky, but the outcome could prove to be very meaningful," she predicted.

Ma Shaoliang, who plays Li's mortal husband Liu in *Lantern*, agrees. "We have already performed it once in Toronto, and it was a huge success. The language barrier did not seem to be a problem at all. Not only did the audience understand it, they enjoyed it tremendously. They applauded widely throughout the opera."

"And applauded at the right moments too," Li added, smiling.

RESCUE

Ma kept circling one of his feet while he talked, a habit perhaps due to his training as an opera actor since he was a child. Although his part in *Lantern* is basically a singing part, he is required to do a daring stunt or two in the second act, in which the till-then happily married couple is separated by the Goddess' elder brother.

Based upon a dance choreographed by Zhao Chin, daughter of the late great film actor Zhao Dan, and the Hebei Bang-Zi style opera of the same name, this presentation of *Lantern* is quite different from the traditional version. It is shorter and cleaner.

The first two of five acts concentrate on the Goddess' marriage to Liu, and in the last three, after she is imprisoned under the mountain by her brother, the focus of the story shifts to the son Chen Xiang, who, upon learning the misfortune of his mother, bravely attempts a rescue.

Yan Bangjin, who plays Chen Xiang, specializes in playing Wu-Shin, a role that emphasizes acrobatics more than singing. He can also be seen in two highlights included in this repertory: *Wu Song Fights at the Inn* and *Theft of the Divine Herbs*. Alert and attentive, he spoke enthusiastically about the tour.

INTENSE

"We toured Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil last year. While performing in Mexico, representatives of a Canadian promoter saw us, and wanted to sign us for a North American tour immediately. It did not materialize till a year later," he recalled.

It is a long and intense tour: 71 days, 14 cities, 65 performances. San Francisco is one of three stops in the US, and the one where the most performances will be given in the whole trip—a total of 14.

Other than the above-mentioned *Lantern*, which is also known as *Bao Lian Dang*, the troupe will present another full-length opera, *The Adventures of the Monkey King*, and six highlights excerpted from famous operas, among them *Zhong Kui Marries Off His Sister*, *Stopping the Horse*, and *Yandang Mountain*. It is playing at the Warfield Theatre through October 25, and is undoubtedly the most entertaining and stunningly brilliant performance currently in town. □

A scene from *Zhong Kui Marries Off His Sister.*

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國風旅行社

Chinese Americans and Santa Clara's Cut-flower Industry

By BARBARA DING

SAN FRANCISCO — Last Friday, Gordon Chan, current president of the Farm Bureau of Santa Clara County, spoke at a Chinese Historical Society lecture at the Chinese Culture Center on the development of the early flower growing business of Chinese Americans in the Santa Clara Valley.

In Santa Clara County, the current-day Chinese cut-flower growers are almost all descendants of immigrants from two villages at Doumen (Huang-liang-du) of Zhong shan County in Guangdong. Their fathers came to this country in the late nineteenth century and started to grow flowers since the turn of this century, Chan reported.

LABORIOUS

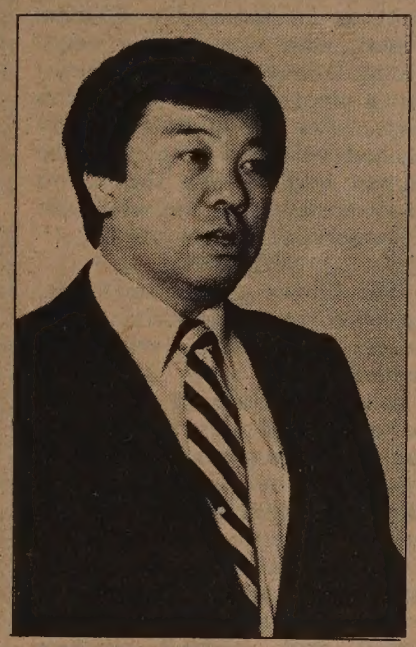
Chan's family also originally came from the Doumen area. Like many Chinese immigrants, Chan's grandfather came to the US over one hundred years ago to make a living, leaving his married wife and children at home. Chan was born in Macao and brought to the US when he was eleven. He received his college education in horticulture at the California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, and went into the flower growing business in the early 60s after his father.

Nursery work requries laborious long working hours all year around, but yields rewards, Chan noted, naming splendor of growing flowers as one. At present, many Chinese families in Santa Clara county have had four generations in this business. Some 50% of the growers in Santa Clara County, or 125 nurseries, are Chinese, Chan said.

California today provides about 60% of cut-flowers for nationwide consumption, with carnation, roses, and chrysanthemums being the three major kinds of cut-flowers.

"Chinese did not come into the scene until the 1910s," Chan said. According to him, many Chinese potato growers switched to the cut-flower business after they lost the European market during the first world war.

These Chinese potato growers moved from the Delta area into the Peninsula area and followed the example of Japanese farmers to raise flowers for commercial purposes, Chan said. Mo Yi-jian and his family were some of the earliest growers with the Lin, Liu, Oiu, Huang and Chen families later joining in. They mainly supplied the local wholesale market at SF. Trans-continental



Gordon Chan.
(Photo by Leland Wong)

flower shipment started in the late 20s but was cut back during the Depression, Chan said. It followed the second world war, and vegetable growing replaced flower growing business during this period.

CHANGES

But the post-war period was a time of rapid growth of the Chinese cut-flower business. Changes in the social status of Chinese played an important role. "Before, Chinese immigrants always planned to return to their homeland. But, around this time, many Chinese decided to buy a piece of land and settled down here permanently," Chan explained. To start a nursery only required about three acres of land and about three employees in addition to family members, a manageable situation for Chinese newcomers.

The 50s also marked a period of technical improvement for flower growers. Electricity was introduced to the nursery, cooling systems were designed and steam heat was used to sterilize the soil and warm the nursery, too. Thus, flower growers were able to expand their nurseries from the slope to other areas, and raised flowers all year around. The 60s, according to Chan, was "the golden age for the cut-flower business, especially for Chinese growers."

But the golden age did not last for long. When the energy crisis hit every aspect of the American life, the flower growing business also sensed the increasing pressure, Chan explained.

According to Chan, gas expenses for commercial growers have increased about 53% since 1975. The cost for transportation has also grown. In the 50s, about 80% trans-continental shipment of flowers were done by air cargo. But, now, facing few alternatives, most growers have returned to surface transportation vehicles equipped with freezing systems. Related to the energy crisis was the cost increase of nursery facilities, such as glass, and fertilizers.

COMPETITION

The second major problem for growers was the competition from foreign countries, Chan explained. Imported flowers increased from 8% to 43% o the market. Chan said that during the 70s, while American growers could not absorb the cost increase, South American countries, especially Columbia, enjoyed cheap labor and the natural environment which required no heating or cooling systems for nurseries.

"Columbian flower growing businesses took over almost all the flower market of the East Coast, which used to belong to Californian farmers," Chan said.

Urban pressure has been another problem, Chan noted.

Chinese workers at a chrysanthemum farm in Santa Clara.
(Photo by Leland Wong)

While industry is rapidly growing in this area, a good price offer for the land from industry owners is often tempting for flower growers. Under the pressure of cost increases, foreign competition, and the urban expansion, about 25% of cut-flower growers of 1978 have gone out of business, according to 1980 statistics.

Although the flower growing buiness has been a specialized family business for Chinese growers during the past 70 years, the tradition is diminishing. The younger generation of many growers' families have no interests in continuing this family enterprise, Chen noted, and thus, a lot of nursery owners actually have to sell their land after they retire. Chan predicted that after three years, another 25% of growers will quit the business.

COLLECTIVE

In terms of improving the present situation. Chan expressed hope in organizations and legislation. He noted that in the past, cut-flowers growers have lacked collective action, but reported that two co-ops were formed to buy supplies recently. Chan suggested that this kind of cooperative organization should be further developed, with the ultimate hope of forming a collective market for growers.

As far as legislation goes, Chan hopes that some legislation could be set up to protect domestic farmers from the competition of foreign imports.

Chan has been appointed again to be the president of the Farm Bureau of Santa Clara, and hopes to be able to work out some collective actions during the second period of his appointment.

"Chinese tend to be individualstistic, especially Chinese farmers. However, I am not going to give up hope," Chan commented. □

Los Angeles A/PA Women Honor Seven

LOS ANGELES — Seven individuals were honored with awards for their contributions to the support of Asian Pacific Women, at a recent reception of the Asian Pacific Women's Network.

The recipients were LA County superior court judges Kathryn Doi Todd and Madge Watai; author Maxine Hong Kingston; Vaimaila I. Faamausili of the Orange County Samoan Chiefs Council; Mayor Tom Bradley and Dominadora Antony, of the California Commission on Teacher Preparation and Licensing.

A special award also went to Mike Woo, who ran unsuccessfully for LA City Council last spring. □

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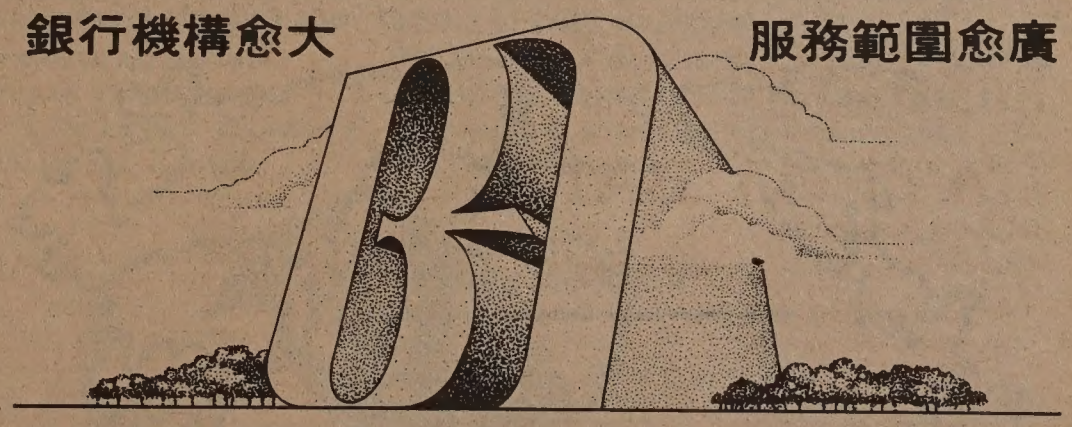

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John Yehall Chin Receives Papal Award

SAN FRANCISCO — John Yehall Chin has been elected to receive the Papal decoration of Knight of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, one of the highest awards bestowed by the Pope on clergy and laity. Chin will receive the award this Sunday at religious ceremonies in Tucson, Arizona, when a Cardinal will come from Rome to preside.

Chin, former principal of St. Mary's school in Chinatown and former president of the SF Community College Board of Governors, received another Papal award for public service in 1964. He has also received numerous city and state awards in honor of his public service and educational work. □

LA Center Offers Classes for Refugees

LOS ANGELES — The Asian American Economic Development Enterprises at LA has been funded to initiate a cycle of supportive services which include vocational ESL, skills training and employment services. Training is divided into "general office" (accounting and file clerks, secretary, etc.) and "electronics" (soldering, blueprint reading, color-coding, etc.). The program is geared for Indochinese refugees aged 16 and over.

Classes will operate on an open-entry, open-exit basis, and each student may progress at his or her own pace, receiving between 10 and 20 weeks of training.

General office training will consist of three hours daily of classroom training and three hours daily of practice lab sessions. Electronics instruction will include two hours of vocational ESL and four hours classroom training.

For information, call Beverly Chan at (213) 227-9810. □

C'town Workers Fail To Use Union Services

SAN FRANCISCO — Approximately half of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union's 3,000 members are Asian, mostly Chinese, and according to Mattie Jackson, manager of the local ILGWU, they are as aware of union benefits and programs as the remaining membership. The problem, she said, is not that the unions fail to reach out to their Asian workers, but that the workers fail to take advantage of union services.

LOYAL

"I think they know what we offer but they don't use it as they should," she said. "They're loyal to their employers. We're searching for ways and means for people to be regular workers like they should be in America. They should be paid properly, not paid a pittance because they're a minority."

To help Asians in ILGWU, the SF council has three Chinese-speaking staff members, and all information regarding medical benefits is translated into Chinese as well as Spanish, Jackson reported. A major contract recently signed with garment industry contractors (who employ most of the Chinese ILGWU members) was translated into Chinese and distributed to all the members, she noted.

In addition, Jackson said union meetings are conducted in Chinese or Spanish, depending on the shop, and her remarks during at-large meetings are translated on the spot. Though Jackson does not speak Chinese, she said Chinese-speaking members can use the translator to ask her questions during meetings. The union also conducts English classes after work at three of its shops.

"Many people who speak fluent English don't know what all their benefits are," Jackson pointed out, adding that most of the members in Chinatown know that they get a vacation check in June, know that they can come to the union for new eyeglasses, and know that the union offers death benefits.

The Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union Local 2, with 4,000 Asian members also offers translation for non-English speakers. According to Mia Luckman, director of education for the 18,000-member local, some of the major contracts and portions of the newsletter are translated into Chinese.

There are also four Chinese-speaking staff members, one of whom speaks Vietnamese as well, who assist members with grievance procedures, pensions, medical benefits and contract negotiations. Like Jackson, Luckman said unions cannot force their members to make active use of benefits, particularly grievance procedures, and both women said there has been resistance to union organizing in Chinatown.

"We have many, many more Chinese workers from outside Chinatown than from inside," Jackson said. "It's a myth that they won't go outside Chinatown to work." But ILGWU has had to "beat its brains out" to unionize Chinatown shops, Jackson added, stressing that the manufacturers are "the key" to unionization.

"Workers in Chinatown won't join," she said, but if they do they generally attend more meetings and are more active in the union than Chinese workers outside Chinatown. But Jackson also said that it extremely difficult to get a Chinese worker to serve as a shop steward, or assume other leadership roles.

"Other workers from the same race intimidate them," she said, citing as an example a Chinese woman who was on the negotiating committee trying to negotiate a piece-work rate at a union shop. After a compromise was reached with the employer, the woman told Jackson she would help translate, but she would no longer serve on the committee.

WILLING

"She didn't come out and say it, but her co-workers felt she was on the employer's side," Jackson explained.

In the restaurant industry, Luckman cited a fear of unionization, lack of a strong tradition of organized labor in the workers' home countries, and the heavy family-orientation of many Asian restaurants as impediments to forming unions.

Both Luckman and Jackson agreed that without workers willing to join, there is little the unions can do, even in Chinatown's many garment shops.

Several ILGWU members from the Naline Lee Sewing Factory in Chinatown have been charged with unemployment fraud, and Jackson said the union is supporting their claim of innocence. According to Jackson, since Naline is a union shop the workers had a right to union council. Some of the workers inquired about this at the union hall, while others sought advice from the Asian Law Caucus. At first the workes thought they could be represented by both sources, she explained, but later decided it would be wiser to choose one or the other, and chose the caucus.

MISCOMMUNICATION

Union representatives have met with the Naline workers three times, Jackson said, to stress tht they should continue to file for unemployment benefits that they are legally entitled to.

"Naline Lee called me and said the workers wouldn't accept unemployment cards," Jackson said. "We assured the Naline workers that they had ever right to file, so why should they be afraid?" Garment industry workers are entitled to partial unemployment benefits during slack work periods, but the Naline Lee workers are being charged with making fraudulent claims.

A recent ILGWU newsletter outlined — in English — the procedures for collecting partial unemployment, warning workers that they would be guilty of fraud if they allowed unemployment payments to make up for below-minimum pay. Jackson was not certain if that information had been translated into Chinese.

Mike Wong, the ALC attorney representing the Naline Lee workers, basically confirmed Jackson's version of how the attorneys were chosen, but added that there had been some "miscommunication" between the union and the workers who first brought in their case.

ILGWU officials had taken the notices the Labor Dept. sent the workers indicating intent to file criminal procedures, Wong said, but the workers were not sure what the union intended to do with them. Now, because ILGWU is not representing the workers they do not have access to the evidence in the case, and as such there is little they can do for the workers, Jackson said.

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Federation Seeks to Educate Asian American Union Members

By TRACY HARRIS

SAN FRANCISCO — Though labor unions have increasingly opened their membership to minorities in recent years, the founders of the newly-formed Asian American Federation of Union Members (AAFUM) still see a need for Asian workers to grasp more actively the benefits of union membership.

"Many people don't understand what a union, what organized labor is," AAFUM president George Wong said. "Unions offer security, better wages, health and pension programs; we want to help Asian Americans make their lives better through the unions."

PREJUDICED

Wong has seen many changes during his 25 years as a member of the Graphic Arts International Union. His local was "very prejudiced" against Asian Americans and other minorities 15 years ago, Wong said, but in the past six or seven years there has been "great improvement." Wong's 1,500-member local now includes 120 Asians.

"They're very willing to accept all people," Wong said. William Jung, a member of the Transport Workers' Union that represents SF's Muni bus drivers, attributed the unions' new openness to the civil rights movement of the 1960's and court settlements in lawsuits against unions that discriminated.

The craft unions, including the construction trades, historically discriminated more than the service unions, Jung said, noting that the hotel and restaurant workers' union has many minority members, including SE Asian immigrants. Nonetheless he still sees a reluctance to join unions within the Asian American community.

"Many are reluctant to join simply because they were excluded for so long," he said. "Also, Asians in the past were often used as strike breakers. This is changing, though — there were lots of Asians in the picket lines at the last hotel strike here."

Nelson Wong has been a member of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders Union for 23 years, and has been walking the picket lines at Kirby's in El Cerito for more than a month. He agrees with Jung and George Wong that Asians must not only join unions, but become a more active voice in union leadership.

LANGUAGE

"It's my personal feeling that prejudice is always there. In my union you don't have it, but there is the language barrier," Wong explained. "People who don't speak very good English will feel that things are against them, but often if you can't understand English you can't hold the job."

Wong is quick to point out how his local has become more open to minorities in recent years. "Ten or 15 years ago they wouldn't even let you in union rotations for jobs. Chinese couldn't get jobs as bartenders. I knew even if I was qualified I couldn't get a bartending job. Now everything is open," he said, adding that 500 of the SF local's 4,500 members are Asian.

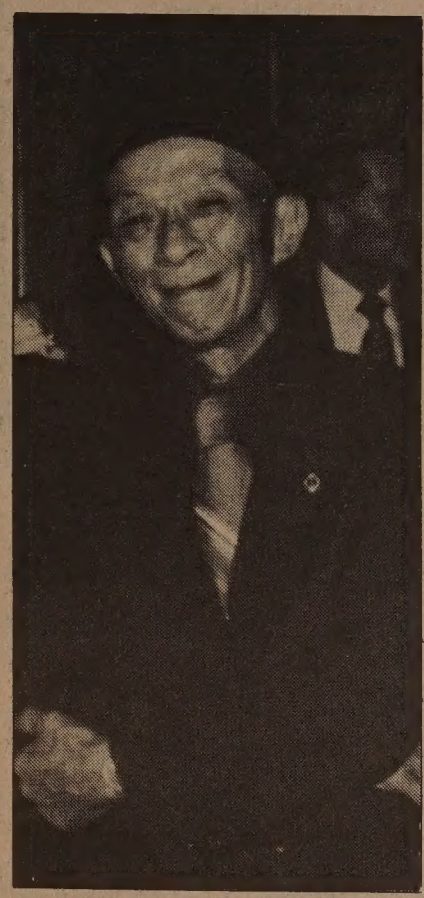
In order to be a union member, however, you must work in a union establishment, Wong said, and in Chinatown most of the restaurants are not union shops.

"There's a certain element in Chinatown that has workers scared to come out and fight for their benefits," Wong said. "There's the language barrier, and they're frightened that if they leave Chinatown they won't be able to get a job. Many Asians don't want to get in trouble, but they see the benefits of unions and want to get in.

"In an area like Chinatown there's not much organized labor can do if we don't have the workers," he continued. "Asians have been slow to mobilize, but it's up to the workers, not up to the unions. It's the workers who have to motivate, to come out, if they want representation before the leaders come in. The members are the unions."

ACTIVE

It was partly from the need to mobilize Asian Americans within unions that the idea for the AAFUM arose. The founders, all union members themselves, felt it was time Asians became more active participants in organized labor.



George Wong.

"It's a sign that there's more awareness that something can be done," Jung said of the federation's formation. "It was really just a bunch of concerned people who met to see if we could do something to help our fellow union members."

The core group of 15-20 members decided that many Asian Americans who had already taken the first step and joined a union were not aware of the rights, privileges and responsibilities that membership had brought them.

"Many workers lack English ability, and most locals don't have bilingual newsletters or literature, or anyone who translates for them," George Wong said. As a result many Asians do not take full advantage of the health and pension benefits their union offers, do not understand how unions work, and therefore become passive members of organized labor.

"Unions protect workers' basic rights," Jung explained. "If you're not united employers can fire you and hire whoever they want. We're not trying to start a new union or form another organization, but Asians and other minorities should take a more active role. That's how we'll develop power and political clout in dealing with City Hall."

EDUCATE

"Our basic purpose is to educate Asian people about unions," Jung said, echoing Wong's words. "Some (Asian union members) hardly speak English, they just pay their dues. But there are medical and dental benefits, and every contract has a grievance procedure if a worker feels he's being cheated." Many workers don't even know the provisions of their contracts because their English isn't good enough, he added.

The federation offers bilingual services, including contract interpretation, to unions and workers in Cantonese, Mandarin, Vietnamese and Cambodian. They also assist workers involved in grievance procedures, and plan to put out a newsletter. They are not presently trying to recruit more Asians to join unions.

"As much as we'd love to bring more minority groups into the unions it's hard because unemployment is so great," George Wong said. "When our own members are out of jobs we have to support them first, we can't bring in new members. That damages other workers who would love to participate."

The federation is trying to make itself known through the central labor bodies and hopes to serve all Asian union members, not just Chinese, Nelson Wong added. "If they have a problem or need help, we'll try our best," he said, adding that by organizing minorities can gain more recognition from unions and companies, and increase their knowledge of individual unions.

The AAFUM is run entirely by volunteers and funded through membership dues of approximately $10 a year.

"We hope to play a major role, but that depends on how well we work together," Nelson Wong said. "We're here to help each other resolve our problems. It's a slow process and a tough job ahead of us."

For information about the Asian American Federation of Union Members call George Wong at 421-7660. □

Bay Area A/PA Women Meet Oct. 29

SAN FRANCISCO — The North Bay Chapter of the Pacific Asian American Women Bay Area Coalition will hold its first general meeting at 7 pm Thursday, Oct. 29 on the 13th floor of the US Federal Bldg., 450 Golden Gate Ave. □

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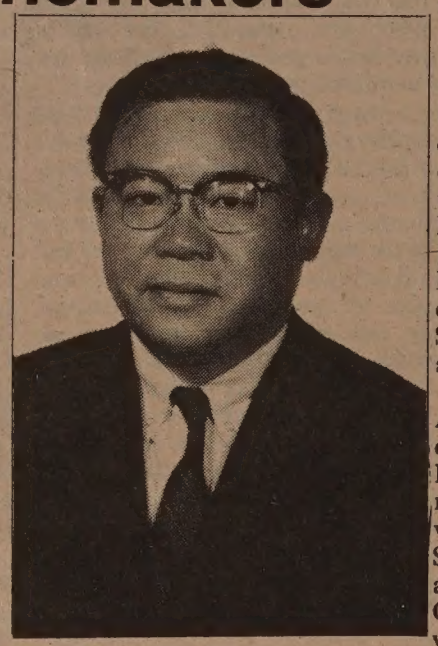
The New Standard of Value

David Low Assists State's Winemakers

By VAN NG LOUIE

SAN FRANCISCO — Chinese Americans were pioneers in starting California's wine industry, planting many vineyards and working on wine cellars and stone walls. As the state's wines attract more and more international acclaim, it is noteworthy that one of the foremost winemaking engineers in the state is also a Chinese American.

The head of his own 15-year-old consulting engineer firm, David K. Low takes great pride in his work, which includes mechanical, electrical and industrial facilities. And although his business card doesn't mention his speciality in wine-making equipment, Low clearly delights in the diversification.



David Low

MARKET

"Not many Chinese American engineers have this knowledge, Knowledge of winemaking equipment resides only in the wineries, and is not offered in engineering schools. I learned it from scratch, on the job. Even caucasian consulting engineer firms don't know much of winemaking equipment," Low, who received his engineering degree from the University of California in Berkeley, explained.

Low said he first got interested in winemaking equipment 15 years ago when he returned to California from Utah where he had worked in the aerospace industry.

"Close to 75% of the wine in this country is made in California," Low related. "Winemaking is a very small market. It was strictly by accident that I got involved in it. When I got back from Utah 15 years ago, I didn't have established clients. I went to the outskirts of the Bay Area to look for clients, and it just happened at that time that the character of the wine industry was changing from a predominantly family-owned industry to ownership by major corporations."

DESIGN

Low described this changeover as being to his benefit because large corporations are more open-minded than a family-run business in hiring an outside consulting engineer. David K. Low & Associates, Inc. was formed after Low teamed up with a structural engineer. "Since then, business has grown, not spectacularly, but it's kept me busy," he related.

His first client, "the one that made me," Low said, was Sterling Winery in Calistoga, but the client that was "the most fun and my favorite" was Anchor Steam Brewery which is the only beer brewery in SF. Three years ago he helped design the facilities, the piping system, and the boilers for Anchor Steam's new plant on Potrero Hill. The names of Low's other clients read like a who's who of well-known California winemakers: Christian Brothers, Simi Winery, Charles Krug Winery, Inglenook.

Low stressed that good-quality engineering design is very important because of the great potential of contamination from wild yeast which turns wine to vinegar. "Sanitation, cleanliness, and sterilization of equipment is important. Good-quality equipment produces good wine," Low explained. The winemaking equipment he designs includes stainless steel tanks, refrigeration equipment, and grapecrushing machinery.

RESEARCH

Consistent with his interest in winemaking equipment, Low is also interested in the historical contributions of Chinese Americans to the California wine industry. A member of the Chinese Historical Society, Low has done 10 years research in this area. Because of his work, he travels extensively in Napa Valley and Sonoma Valley, and often comes across Chinese American artifacts.

Physical evidence of Chinese Americans in the wine industry exists in the limestone cellars at Beringer Winery in Saint Helena, north of Napa, built by Chinese workers probably after 1865. Stone fences along the vineyards are also rumored to be built by Chinese who worked in these vineyards as farmers, Low reported.

"I would see an antique Chinese temple bell hung on a wine manufacturing plant in Santa Rosa, and I could tell from the inscription it's from the Qienlung period of the Qing dynasty. There was also a fair-sized Chinatown in Napa, along the Napa River on First Street, which caught fire in the 1920 and burned down," Low noted.

Low added that growing grapes was in line with what Chinese knew because many of the immigrants had been farmers in southern China, particularly in the Guangdong. "It was natural that they got jobs in Napa Valley," Low said.

Low noted that Chinese Americans also built railroads, the levees in the delta area, and worked in the fishing and cigar making industries.

These Chinese Americans contributions are often slighted in American textbooks because "the whole history of the Chinese in the US is tragic," Low explained, noting that the strong anti-Chinese feeling in the US between 1865 and 1910 caused many Chinese to lose their jobs.

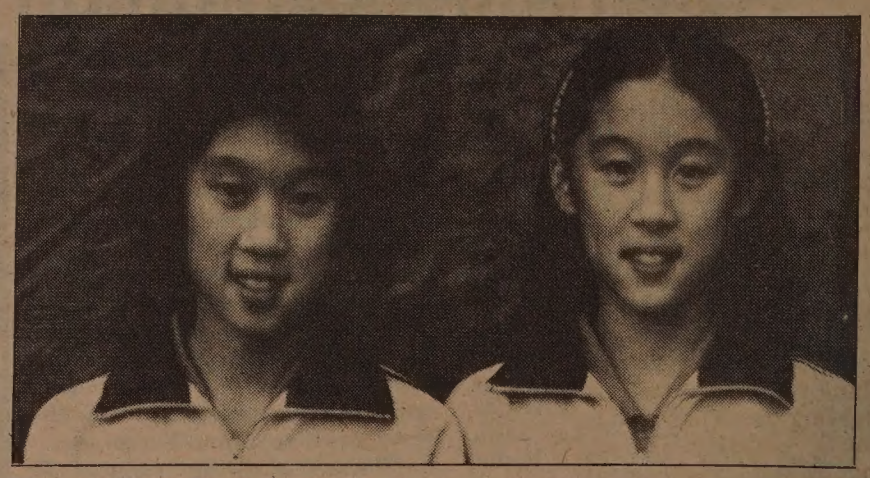
"Everyday when you pass Portsmouth Square and see the old men playing chess, that is the result of the Chinese exclusion acts forbidding Chinese males from bringing their wives. That is the physical evidence. You see Filipino and Chinese old men, you hardly see couples sitting," Low pointed out.

Low said he plans to continue researching the role of Chinese Americans in the California Wine industry as well as to continue designing winemaking facilities and equipment. With European companies and ivnestors finally recognizing the quality of California wine, Low said, the prospects are good that his clientele will grow.

"European winemakers are establishing wineries here in California, and are setting up joint ventures with American businessmen," Low explained. "The character of the industry is again changing."

"It's a pleasant business to be in," Low said, smiling. "The clients are very nice. When we have a meeting, it's usually done with a bottle of wine. Wine is a good, social type of beverage." When asked which, among his winery clients, is his favorite wine, Low unhesitatingly declared. "They're all my favorite wines!" □

Gee Sisters of San Carlos Win Table Tennis Honors



Diana and Lisa Gee, photo by Fred Grobee

BERKELEY — One of the biggest upset in local table tennis history occurred in the state championships held here October 3-4 when 12-year-old Diana Gee of San Carlos upset three much higher seeded players to take the women's singles event in round robin competition.

Co-director of the tournament Masaaki Tajima called Gee's victory "a tremendous upset. She finished ahead of three 2000-rated players." Gee defeated Yee Hung Choy of SF in the final fifth game to become the state champion.

Lisa Gee, Diana's twin sister also had a very successful tournament in Berkeley. She won the Junior titles in the under 13 years and under 15 years events by defeating her twin sister in the finals.

More than 110 players competed in the championships, according to tournament co-director Shonie Aki. Players came from as far away as Las Vegas and New Jersey.

The Gee sisters were among the top US women players selected by the United States Table Tennis Association to particpate in the 1981 National Sports Festival held recently in Syracuse, New York. Lisa Gee teamed with Judy B. Hoarfrost of Beaverton, Oregon to win the women's double event.

The twins won the doubles competition in the 1981 AAU/USA Junior Olympics Nationals in Oklahoma City. They are 7th graders at Tierra Linda Middle School in San Carlos and the daughters of Yim and Betty Gee.

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SAN FRANCISCO

The Lost Grandeur of China's Yuan Ming Yuan

By CYNTHIA CHIN-LEE and S. M. CHEN

"In Xanadu did Kubla Khan
A stately pleasure-dome decree."

BEIJING — There are several palaces in China — such as the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace — but perhaps the one with the greatest meteoric rise and fall in fame is Yuan Ming Gardens. Emperor Kang Xi of the Qing Dynasty started construction of Yuan Ming Gardens in the early eighteenth century. Literally meaning "round, bright garden," Yuan Ming Yuan is now a mostly forgotten ruin outside of Qinghua University in Beijing.

Under construction from the early 1700s to about 1796, it was once a lavish playground for the Qing emperors. Today, the inquisitive tourist can go there to find only a huge expanse of countryside, a few rococo columns, and some large Chinese stone statues.

ABUNDANT

What happened to Yuan Ming Gardens, once a luxuriously landscaped and complicated complex of buildings? In 1735 the Emperor Qien Lung had developed this summer palace into a magnificent estate for Qing royalty. He adorned it with steep hills and wide lakes, and placed hundreds of temples and pavilions on islands or lakeside promontories. Consisting of three major sections — Yuan Ming Yuan, Chang Chun Yuan (garden of long spring), and Wan Chun Yuan (garden of eternal spring), the park encompassed 430 acres.

Like Kubla Khan, Qien Lung was a foreign ruler of China. As a Manchurian, he had his origins in the area northeast of China. Lovers of the outdoors and unaccustomed to Bejing's hot summers, the Manchurians had built several summer retreats where they could freely indulge in hunting and horseback riding.

Yuan Ming Gardens was the emperor's special summer retreat known for fresh hot springs and abundant vistas. Here the emperor spent two-thirds of his time, with only the most important ceremonies, such as his birthday or the Lunar New Year, bringing him back into the city. He met with his ministers and foreign ambassadors and tended to the daily administration of government at Yuan Ming Gardens.

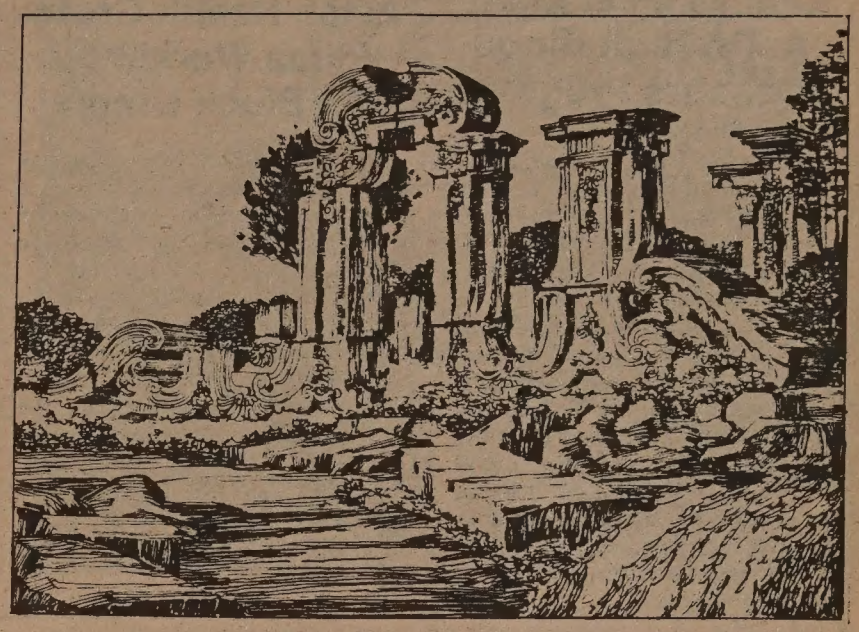
TREASURES

The Chinese made their gardens a microcosm of the world they knew with studied irregularity and a diversity of styles. Thus, Yuan Ming Gardens had broad, northern plains and smaller southern gardens with artificial hills and decorative rock forms. It had imitations of Buddhist, Taoist, and Confucian temples, as well as a copy of an urban marketplace.

Western missionaries Giuseppe Castiglione and Michael Benoit designed European structures of hydraulically powered fountains and buildings of marble and brick in the small, formal gardens of the Manchu ruler. Among all the buildings of Yuan Ming Gardens, the European ones lasted the longest because of the relative endurance of the building materials.

During the mid-19th century, the fame of Yuan Ming Gardens spread quickly to Europe. Victor Hugo, in November 1861, wrote to a friend about the gardens. He likened it to the "palace of the moon," and compared it to the world's great treasures, such as the Parthenon in Greece, the pyramids in Egypt, the Coliseum in Rome.

Yuan Ming Gardens soon became regarded by Europeans as the "garden of all gardens." During the Second Opium War it was the coveted target of the Anglo-French army under Lord Elgin. In October 1860, the invading troops destroyed five palace complexes and all subsidiary buildings. Soldiers plundered its halls and chambers filled with fine porcelains, rich satins and silks, paintings, carpets, and other priceless gifts from foreign ambassadors and local artists.



Some ruins of an old pavilian at Yuan Ming Yuan. (Drawing by S.M. Chen)

A stone statue in Yuan Ming Yuan. (drawing by S. M. Chen)

RESTORE

The major part of Yuan Ming Garden's existing treasures now reside in foreign museums or collections, such as the National Museum in Paris' collection of 40 landscape paintings by Sun Yuan Tang Dai.

The Empress Dowager later tried to restore part of the gardens, but her efforts were limited by the problems of peasant uprisings, war indemnity, and conflict among the ruling class.

Eight allied armies, including those of England, France, Italy, Russia, Japan and the US, invaded Chinese territory in the Boxer Rebellion in 1900. They sacked Yuan Ming Gardens for a second time with desperate local mobs and Qing soldiers aiding them in its destruction. Qing soldiers burned doors and window frames for fuel; local gangs stole rare plants and trees.

The Chinese government has since made efforts to restore the Gardens and has planted thousands of trees and shrubs, although during the Great Leap Forward, the People's Commune had reclaimed parts of the garden as farmland. Most recently, the government has appointed a committee to study and recommend ways to restore the grounds. In the meantime the curious may still go there and see the ruins. □

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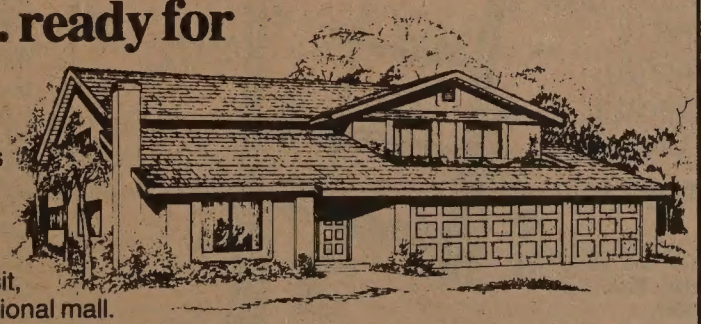

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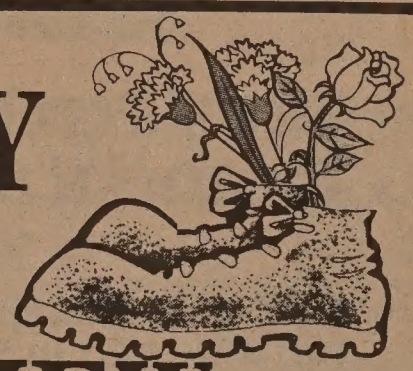

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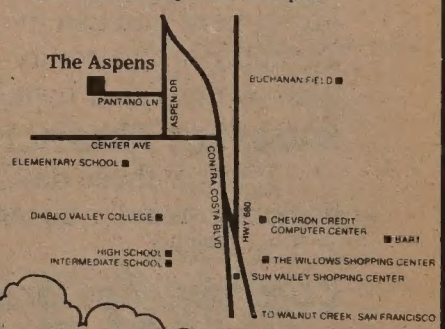

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Oct. 28 Meet Plans A/PA High Blood Pressure Program

SAN FRANCISCO — The Asian/Pacific Islander Task Force on High Blood Pressure Education and Control will hold the first northern California meeting of its second program year Wednesday, Oct. 28 from 2-5 pm at SF General Hospital, Ward 82 Board Room, 995 Potrero and 22nd Ave.

The task force was funded for a second year beginning Oct. 1, and hopes to implement and evaluate programs to improve the blood pressure of A/PA communities in California. For information, contact project coordinator May Sung or associate coordinator Nona Garcia at 635-0290. □

Asian Health Group Plans Workshop On Block Grants

SAN FRANCISCO — The Bay Area Asian Health Alliance is sponsoring a one-day workshop on block grants and the legislative process.

The workshop will be held on Saturday, October 24 with a morning session from 10 am to 12 noon and an afternoon session from 1:30 to 3:30 pm, at the French Hospital Medical Center (Anza St. and Sixth Ave.). Preregistration is not needed and there is a $5 fee. For information, call Kelvin Quan, 771-1727, evenings. □

EVENTS

THUR. OCT. 22 10 am
C'town Healthy Baby of the Year contest, Health Ctr. 4, 1490 Mason, SF.

THUR, OCT, 22, 1-2 pm
Lecture on women's health (Cantonese) at NEMS, 1520 Stockton St., SF. free

THURS., OCT. 22, 7 pm
UC Santa Cruz information lecture, program in Chinese and English; Cameron House, 920 Sacramento, SF (408) 429-4008

FRI., OCT. 23, 5:30-8:00 pm
A PA Advocates of California membership recruitment and reception, $20 singles; $30 couples; $10 seniors and students, 1765 Sutter, SF

FRI., OCT. 23, 5:30-7 pm
Reception, US—China Peoples Friendship Assoc., Chinese Culture Center. 750 Kearny, SF. 863-0537

FRI., OCT. 23, 7:30 pm
Youth Goodwill Mission presents "An Adventure in Chinese Song and Dance", Univ of S. Calif Bovard Auditorium, LA, $3, 743-6921

FRI., OCT. 23, 7:30 - 9 pm
Reception, Chinese American Bilingual School, Woods Hall, 55 Laguna, SF

FRI. -SUN., OCT. 23-25
Third Annual Subregion Retreat, US- China Peoples Friendship Association, $30; information (408) 295-1877

SAT., OCT. 24, 12 noon
Chi Am Circle Club fashion show, Palo Alto Holiday Inn, $12.50; (408) 738-1969.

SAT., OCT. 24, 9 am-4:15 pm
Asian Pacific Personnel Association Conf. on "Demystifying Personnel," Fireman's Fund, 3333 California, St., SF. $25/members, $35/pre-registrants, $40/at-door. Call Sandra Nakaji 477-7423 or Linda Lee 497-4771.

SAT., OCT. 24,1-4 p.m.
Class in hand-coloring b & w photographs taught by Terry Lim at Studio one, 365-45th St., Oakland. $5, bring photos. For information call 655-4767.

SAT., OCT. 24, 8am-3pm
Central Calif. Asian-Pac Women's Conf., CSU Fresno's John Wright Theater, Fresno.

SAT., OCT. 24, 9am-4pm
Lowell High School Alumni Run, sponsored by Lowell-X-country team, Lake Merced, Sunset and Lake Merced. For information call 558-4268

SAT., OCT, 24, 9 amto 4:15 pm
Conference by Asian Pac Personnel Assoc. on "Demystifying Personnel," 3333 California St., SF. Call 477-7423 for reservations.

SUN., OCT, 25, 8 pm
Dr. Michael Chan discusses rheumatoid arthritis on Sinocast, cable channel 26.

MON., OCT. 26, 7 pm
Pac and Asian Am Women Bay Area Women Coalition South Bay Chapter meeting, Santa Clara County Gov't Ctr., 70 W. Hedding St., San Jose, Call (408) 295-8106 for information

TUES., -WED., OCT. 27-28, 10AM-6PM, 1PM-8PM
Hearings for Governor's Task Force om Civil Rights; Ted C. Willis Community Center, 700 N. San Pablo, Fresno.

TUES., OCT., 27, 5:30 PM
Parenting workshop with Diana Ming Chan "Effective Family Communication I" at Wu Yee Lok Yuen Childcare, 855 Sacramento St., SF. free.

TUE,. OCT. 27, 7:30 pm
Script reading: Choy Buck-tone's I Caught a Chinese Yankee, Fort Mason Ctr. Bldg. C, Beach & Buchanan, SF. $1.50 (931-2392)

WED., OCT. 28, 2-5 pm
Asian Pac Blood Pressure Task Force meeting, SF Gen. Hosp., 995 Potrero, SF. Call 635-0290.

FRI., OCT. 30, 7 pm
Asian American Theatre Company benefit, "The Twilight Zen", $25; Chinese Culture Center, 750 Kearny, SF, RVSP 752-8324

SAT., OCT. 31, 8:30 am
Seminar "Introduction to Traditional Chinese Medicine", $125 physicians/$75 non-physicians; Presbyterian Hospital, 2333 Buchanan, SF, application deadline OCT. 16, 563-4321, ext. 2761

SAT. OCT., 31, 11 am
Halloween film party, Wu Yee Resource Center, 571 Vallejo, SF. free

SAT., OCT. 31, 2-5 pm
Book party for Ruthanne Lum McCunn's "Thousand Pieces of Gold," East Wind Books, 1435A Stockton, SF

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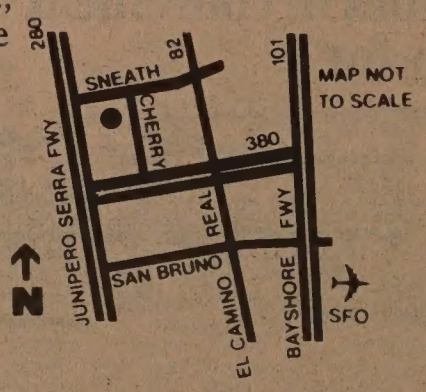

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Fine Acting Balances Out Weaknesses in *True Confessions*

PROGRAM NOTES

By RICHARD SPRINGER

Does the high calibre of acting by Robert De Niro and Robert Duvall in *True Confessions* compensate for the inadequacies of the screenplay by John Gregory Dunne and Joan Didion? The answer is yes, but with the understanding that you shouldn't go to this film seeking a mystery thriller.

The script, based on the novel by Dunne, has three major concerns. The most important is a character study between two brothers — a Machiavellian priest played by De Niro, and a cynical hot-tempered cop, played by Duvall.

The second concern is a sub-plot about power politics within the Catholic Church. The majority of the film is set in Los Angeles in the late 1940s. De Niro is the ambitious hatchet man for a calculating cardinal, played very well by Cyril Cusack. Burgess Meredith plays an old guard monsignor who is being edged out of power by Cusack and De Niro.

MURDER

The other sub-plot involves the solving of a brutal murder of a porn film actress who is found dismembered. Duvall in charge of the investigation and a chief suspect is a shady businessman (Charles Durning) who contributes money to the Catholic Church in exchange for political favors. At the time of the murder, Durning is desperate to get the church to support a development project to prop up his precarious finances.

The solving of the murder sets the other plots and themes in motion, but the solution of the crime, as written and shot by director Ulu Grosbard, comes as an anti-climax. Obviously the love-hate relationship between the two brothers is the thematic center of the film, but focusing upon the murder for most of the film deceives the viewer. Part of the problem is that even De Niro becomes a suspect. If you are going to make the central characer of your story a murder suspect, you should make the solving of the crime more than a clumsy appendage to the ending.

One of the films shown last week in the SF Film Festival was *Three Brothers*, directed by Francesco Rosi. A better title for the De Niro-Duvall film would be *Two Brothers*. It's a character study with a plot that works against itself. The fifteen years later meeting between the priest and the cop that begins and ends the film only underscores the fact that *True Confessions* is structured at cross purposes. Still, the acting by De Niro and Duvall is as good as we've had this year.

TRAGIC

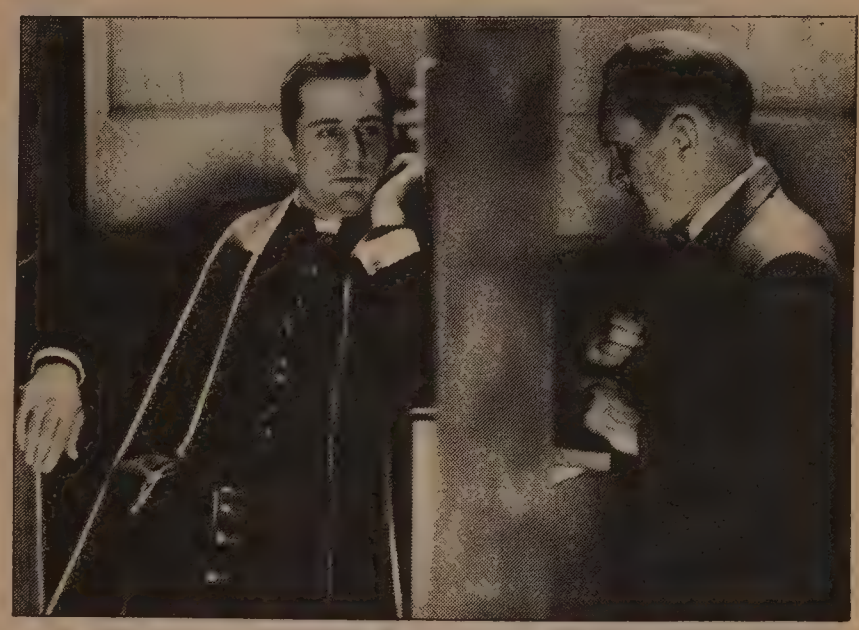
• *The Boat is Full* is one of the two or three best films to be shown thus far (through last Monday) at this year's SF Film Festival. It's about a group of refugees from Nazi Germany who escape into neutral Switzerland, only to be sent back to Nazi Germany to a sure death sentence.

Swiss director Markus Imhoff has angered some of his countrymen, who want to forget this ignoble episode of history. Imhoff makes the audience root like crazy for several of the characters to make it to safety. The fact that they don't, and it's obvious from the beginning of the film that most of them are doomed, gives *The Boat is Full* tragic dimension. It opens October 21 at the Surf Theatre.

PIXOTE

• During the Brazilian film festival at the Castro Theatre in June, one film received unanimous praise from the critics — *Pixote*, directed by Hector Babenco. The life of crime of the slum kids in San Paulo is portrayed with brutal honesty. Babenco does what Charles Dickens did over a century ago in *Oliver Twist*. He creates a self-contained underworld, where the corruption of the young by circumstance and social conditions seems inevitable.

Babenco is refreshingly frank about his intentions. He states the facts of Brazilian slum life in a brief prologue to the film. Seeing a ten year old boy being exposed to crime, prostitution and homosexuality may be very upsetting to some moviegoers, but I'm sure Babenco would say, it's much more upsetting to the children who try to survive these conditions. *Pixote* starts at the Lumiere Theatre October 23. □



Robert De Niro, as Monsignor Desmond Spellacy, hears the confession of his brother, police detective Tom Spellacy (Robert Duvall) in *True Confessions*.

A/PA Advocates Slate SF Reception

SAN FRANCISCO — Asian Pacific American Advocates of California will hold a local chapter reception on Fri., Oct. 23 from 5:30 to 8 pm at JACL, 1765 Sutter St. Light refreshments and no-host cocktails will be provided. Admission to the event, which is also a membership drive, will be based on membership fees: $20 for singles, $30 for couples, and $10 for seniors and students. Fees may be sent to Barbara Lee, 321 23 Avenue, #5, SF 94121. □

Chinese American Bilingual School Slates Reception

SAN FRANCISCO — The Chinese American Bilingual School will hold a reception on Friday, Oct. 23 from 7:30 to 9 pm at Woods Hall, 55 Laguna Street. The reception will honor the opening of the school this fall. For information, call 864-0524. □

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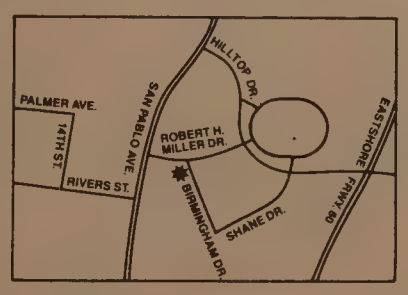

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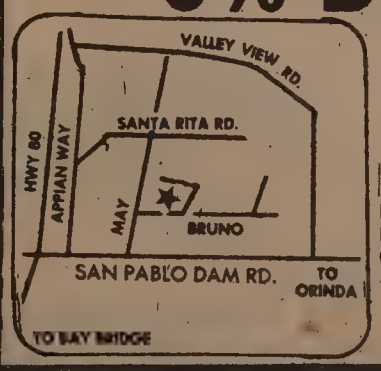

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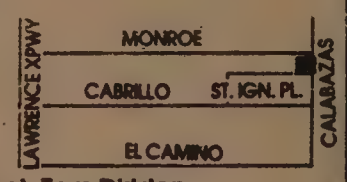

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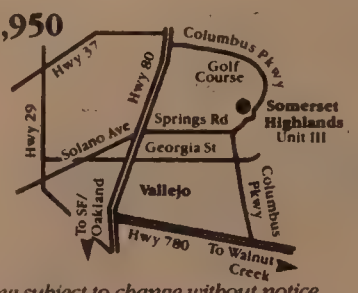

*Cash price of typical home $130,000. Cash down payment $26,000. 80% loan $104,000. 360 monthly payments of $1211.72. 14% annual percentage rate, 13¾% interest rate.

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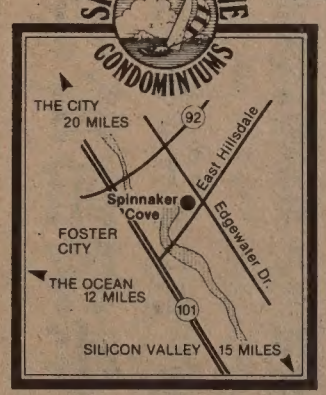

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十九，十一月的團年飯

余卓雄

長安大街兩旁的落葉撒個滿地，在北風中滾來滾去，有兩個戴着白口罩的中年婦人在耐心地把落葉掃成一堆，趕着在下一陣小旋風來到之前，用竹箕裝起來倒在一輛小木車裏。從古城樓後透過來的陽光愈來愈微弱，我突然記起，還有十幾天便是美國的感恩節了。

這一天，我們一家人沒有和團友們去參觀公社和一所小學校，更自動放棄了上世界聞名的北京烤鴨店親嘗那道使北京飽負美譽的名菜——不是北京烤鴨還是甚麼？然而「魚與熊掌，不可得兼」，我們最後跟殷鴻順老同志一塊兒走了。

到北京以來，這是第一次和殷老在一起，我們多麼珍惜這寶貴的時刻，好像一對久別的舊友，又像一個四代同堂的家庭，做祖父的帶了兒媳孫輩興奮地到處走，在客氣中有無限甜蜜的親情。

「我已經給你在中醫醫學院預約好了大夫。」殷老對我說，「健康要緊。」他對我的血壓高情況十分關懷。到了醫院，才知道那天是大夫們自修和休息的日子，然而他們聽見說是遠道來的病人，就把自己的時間犧牲了。我們穿過了那小院子，到了診室，一位主理的大夫，兩位助理，三位見習早坐在那裏等候，他們都穿着白制服，頭戴白帽，都帶着和藹的笑容，使病人增加了不少的信心。

周志成主任醫師給我開了藥方。在美國，這種特診情形非要五十大元不可，我心裏準備付上這個數目，手裏拿出幾張鈔票來，收費的女同志見了，却是一片驚諤的表情，連忙搖手道：「哎唷，不，不，不過是兩塊錢。」

他們聽見說是遠道來的病人，就把自己的時間犧牲了。

殷老帶我們到他的女兒和女婿的家裏吃晚飯，因爲他一個人住在王府井，地方狹小，又沒有設備招待客人，祇好把這一個欵待的責任交給青年人了。我問殷老的女兒道：「令慈是甚麼時候去世的？」

她細聲地回答，好像怕爸爸聽見似的：「在文化大革命的時候被嚇壞了。」

小小的廳堂上，熱烘烘地擠滿了人，還有從天津趕來的趙同志父子。兩張桌子擺滿了使一個南方人驚喜的不知名的菜肴。我激動地對大家說道：「時不我與，今晚，我們就算是吃團年飯吧。」

飯後，我們拍了幾張照片，就安靜地坐下來談話，每一個人說話的時候，所有的人都在留心聽。我拿出聖經來，讀出保羅致腓立比人書第一章第三節：「我每逢想念你們，就感謝我的上帝……」我們跪下來，擁抱着，爲中國祈求。殷老的眼淚，一滴一滴的掉在我的衣襟上。

夜霧甚濃，伸手不見五指；北京早已睡入夢鄉，祇有我們這一大家人，還在往事和遠景中輾轉不能成眠。

二十，老兵不死

一九一八年，天津洪水爲患，在災民行列中，有一個人伸出手去接受基督教救世軍的一碗米粥。後來他竟成爲救世軍的一名少校，從此他把自己的手伸出去，拯救了無數喪亡的靈魂；他又訓練了許多幹事們協助他做社會福利的工作，在以後的六十年中，他是救靈戰爭中一名光榮的戰士。雖然他被挫折了許多次，然而他從未失敗，因爲他一天爲道忠心，就多一次的勝利，使魔鬼無法控制全部的局面。特別是奮鬥到今天，這名銀髮閃爍的老兵，可以引聖徒保羅的話自豪說：「那美好的仗我已經打過了，當跑的路我已經跑盡了，所信的道我已經守住了。從此以後，有公義的冠冕爲我存留，就是按着公義審判的主到了那日要賜給我的，不但賜給我，也賜給凡愛慕他顯現的人。」

我了勵鼓事故的（三第起左）順鴻殷們的意志。

他是誰？他就是殷鴻順。我實在沒有意思去爲一個人作誇大之詞，然而在那偌大的京城裏，我認識的人祇有他。雖然如此，這也使我有足夠的理由率領全家大小北上了；一見如故，殷鴻順的故事鼓勵了我們的意志和愛心。誠然，像他一樣忠心的人眞不知道還有多少，他們的故事同樣可歌可泣，他們是歷史的見證人，他們曾給予我們生的眞諦，他們的名字不會刻在石碑上，甚至也許永遠不會被後代發覺，然而我可以保證，他們才是有資格進入天堂的人，他們的痛苦一直被上帝所記念。

殷鴻順從皮包裏拿出一件東西來，說：「我恐怕你不相信我，我給你做了這個，一方面是我的證明，其次你可以留下，做個紀念。」

我接過來，是一面十寸大小的救世軍軍旗，用黃、紅、藍三種顏色紙貼成的，黃色代表聖靈的火焰，紅色代表基督救贖的寶血，藍色代表信徒聖潔的生活。

「是我自製的。」他謙遜地說：「做得不精巧。」

他說的對，軍旗顏色的尺寸不協調，四週彎彎曲曲，中間做夾心的舊報紙也露了出來，可以清楚地看見一行字，原來是一首歌，題目是「你的心事我知道」。然而這面軍旗製自年近八十的顫動的手，我一點也不苛求！殷鴻順有三十多年沒有眼見過這面旗，但是，旗飄揚在他的心坎裏，如今他憑了記憶力把旗製造出來，它立刻成了我的世界裏一件寶貴的東西。

在一九一八年救助殷鴻順的白麗特中校早已在美國去世，留下白夫人住在新墨西哥的一間小房子裏，她還十分清楚記得那個在天津大水災中生還的男孩子。她寫信告訴我關於殷鴻順的許多往事，還寄給我一批發黃了的相片，共中一幀是當年中國政府在太原等地頒給她的一批服務獎章。

金山客批世情

＊憲法權利

田納西州上訴法庭宣判，憲法有賦予婦女在公共場所暴露乳房權利。

金山客曰：無上裝合法，早在三藩市施行矣。

＊越保越險

東灣區一女子爲謀取保險金而殺害丈夫

金山客曰：保險者，有時越保越險也。

＊衣冠禽獸

報載：最新潮之時裝，均以禽獸爲圖案。

金山客曰：新潮人物，均屬衣冠禽獸。

＊郵漲

平郵即將加價，以C字郵票爲新加價之郵票。

金山客曰：平郵加價郵票，已用者有ABC三字，尚有廿三個字母可用作加價也。

現場錄音

※米與飯

星仔：你話米同飯有乜嘢分別呢？

明仔：當然有分別啦，米係用錢買嘅，飯係我阿媽煲嘅，唔駛錢嘅囉嗎！

齊魯會館啓事

(一)本會館於本月十五日起，遷移新址辦公。

(二)凡本會會員暨各界人士如有公務接洽，請逕至下列地址：

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S. F. Ca. 94118

電話：三八六—九四八四

(三)特此通告。

理事會啓

5027

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浮世漫錄

蔣光大

二一四．現代京劇

此次「天津京劇團」進行「訪北美演出」，自九月中旬至十一月初，在加拿大和美國十四個城市訪問表演，目前正在本市上演中。該劇團擁有男女演員四十人，樂隊（文武場面）十二人，技術員七人，陣容堅强。

天津京劇團的簡介說，他們「創造和演出新編歷史劇和現代戲」，又說他們「擁有一批老藝術家，在他們精心培養和指導下，近年來又成長起來一批中、青年演員。他們朝氣蓬勃、刻苦練功，繼承了老一代藝術家的一些優秀的代表劇目。」

星期日觀看了該劇團的新編歷史神話劇「寶蓮燈」，將原來封建意識濃厚而沉悶的唱工戲，改爲唱、做、武打兼全而富有現實人情味的精彩表演，誠如簡介所說，演員們個個顯得朝氣蓬勃，把觀衆都吸引住了。

近年來京劇漸行式微，青年們大多對此缺少興趣，使人憂慮其恐將失傳。仔細想來，京劇本身確有其缺點，跟時代有些脫節了，不得不陷落「自然淘汰」中。但讓這個民間最受歡迎的劇種就此衰落，實在十分可惜，必須挽救。這次看了「天津京劇團」的演出後，深信國內人士正在做這項工作。

這次上演的「寶蓮燈」表演一個完整的故事，開始從三聖母「思凡」，巧逢劉彥昌上華山採藥，因而結成姻緣，一年後生子「沉香」，設宴慶賀嬰兒滿月時，三聖母的兄長「二郎神」前來問罪，把妹子收服後，壓在華山底下，嬰兒由霹靂大仙救出，收養爲子，傳授武藝。十五年後，沉香獲知母親的遭遇，趕到華山，劈開華山，救出母親，最後父母兒子再度團聚。這樣完整的故事，觀衆看得很清楚，不會感到沉悶。

在演技方面有新的現象，守舊（佈景）美觀，襯托舞台氣氛，演員精神飽滿，主角和配角，都有表情，使台上演出有完整的印象，增加劇情的效果。唱做表情簡潔，沒有拖泥帶水的舊習慣，舞台淨化使觀衆能集中注意力，欣賞表演。

劇團人員謙虛，希望觀衆批評指教。事實上要批評常由主觀出發，有人說表演的節奏似乎太快些，不像傳統的京劇演出，我以爲這是京劇表演的現代化，是一項很大的進步，正由於演員們的年輕力壯，精神蓬勃，表顯出演出的生動活潑，否則如何能挽救衰弱的京劇，因此，有可能使人感到，有時在唱腔和做工方面似乎過度强調，唱得花腔多了些，做得動作有些長而重覆。但是這些就是青年們所喜愛的。

聽說有個粵劇團將來舊金山訪問演出，演員名單中可能有早年馳名東南亞各地的「紅綫女」，在國內池飽經滄桑，現在着重培養新人，不久前曾偕劇團在香港演出，觀衆擁擠，盛況空前云。

下午茶座

懸旗

上週在茶叙中，甲君提出一個問題。他說：「近日閱報看見洛杉磯市議會因懸掛中國國旗事，掀起一場風波，結果美國國務院有信給市議員們，向他們表示如此事件處理不慎，將影響美中邦交。市議會及後通過議案，把懸掛北京、台北雙方旗幟，改爲兩者均不懸掛。我看如洛杉磯開此先例，由地方性議會決定每一州、市、鎮的外交政策，將來還會在別一處發生同樣事件。」

乙說：「大家知道美國的州、市政府不能左右國家的外交政策。但自從美中關係正常化以來，台北特別注意與地方性機構和政府人員的往來，跟好一些州和市鎮建立友好關係。有些地方性議會還去電總統及國務院要求與台北復交。洛杉磯市議會懸旗事不是一件突如其來的事件。」

丙說：「其實美國人民與台灣人民的友好往來，是無可厚非的。只要不牽涉敏感的美中政治問題便可以了。」

乙說：「台灣與美國工商界有密切聯繫，在政治活動上肯花錢。台北領導階層多是美國大學畢業生。對美國政治情況瞭如指掌。當然會繼續進行對他們有利的活動。你說是政治活動嗎？他們會說這是文化經濟交流。你說是外交性活動嗎？他們會說這是民間團體的友好往來……」

甲說：「無論如何，錢是不能少的。相信花在政客競選費和招待美國地方官員往台灣旅遊的費用每年要一百幾十萬元。」

丁君坐在一旁，到最後才說：「花一百幾十萬，爭取美國地方官員的支持，值得嗎？如果能用這些錢在台灣或在美國華人社區做些社會福利的工作，不是更好嗎？」

（陳志福）

觀京劇隨想

（孫悟空大鬧乾坤劇照）

我對戲劇雖然極有興趣，京戲却是外行—小時候家裡不帶去看，看也看廣東大戲。這次天津京劇團在三藩市演出，趁熱鬧看了幾場，看得津津有味，這大概就是「藝術不分界限」罷。

最過癮的是「寶蓮燈」。演劉彥昌的馬少良，連外行人都覺得他唱得夠味道，一場「廟遇」，與飾沉香的閻邦建大演對手戲，聽出耳油。李莉的三聖母造型唱做皆佳，可惜戲少了點，演完「遇害」，就被二郎神壓在華山之下，直到臨散場才再唱了兩句。

這套「寶蓮燈」，是根據河北梆子戲及趙青的舞劇改編的，比傳統的「寶蓮燈」故事簡單。男主角劉彥昌原本是書生，在這裡改成了採藥人。可是改不了書生的壞習慣，仍然動不動「手痕」，拿起筆在紅紗上題詩。曾寫兩個字的人不知爲什麼總有這個技癢的惡習，傳到現在，演變成在大衆交通工具和公共建築物牆上亂畫亂塗，簡直不分區域，不分年代，眞正歷史悠久及國際性者也！

「寶蓮燈」第三場「下山」，有我最感興趣的鏡子對照運用。沉香練武之際，村姑到來求採靈芝。劉彥昌是採藥人，沉香無意中也採起藥來，微妙地聯繫了父子關係。而由村姑孝心事母，引起了沉香對自己身世的疑問，導出下半部戲的故事情節，可算高筆。

猴戲「孫悟空大鬧乾坤」我也看得眉開眼笑。看的是第一晚，由李英杰演孫悟空。後來十八號一個酒會上見到他，拐着腿，原來扭傷了。孫悟空最難得的是與人比武時，往往把對方兵器奪過來，以其人之道治其人之身。可想這角色特別難演，必須精於各種武器，連舞大旗也得會。李英杰演得十分出色，另一位也演美猴王的穆祥熙，沒有機會看到，想也必定有相當水準。

折子戲當中我最喜愛的是「搖馬」，打鬥格式之美，使人目不暇給。論到翻筋斗，則以「雁蕩山」爲最精彩，比「大鬧乾坤」還多花樣。「鍾馗嫁妹」講究造型，鍾馗與五鬼既滑稽又美妙，格局上與西方現代舞甚多相通之處，使人又驚訝又讚歎。

這次最興奮的，是得到一個偶然的機會，在後台看人畫花臉。從小就對藝人萬分好奇，看化粧倒是第一次，開心的程度，可想而知。看天津京劇團，不僅是知識上的滿足，更是感情上的充實，當然，是會留在記憶裡很久很久的。

（邁克）

三言兩語

治安

紐約、洛杉磯和舊金山華埠近都發生白天持槍行劫案件。今天的治安問題已不再是地域性問題。因爲歹徒們都會坐汽車、坐飛機。華埠的商人不但要注意本埠的動態，還要注意美國加拿大其他華埠的治安情形。

（黃就）

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雷根與趙紫陽出席南北會議

（本報訊）雷根總統定今天飛往墨西哥坎昆城出席「國際合作發展會議」（即南北首腦會議）。會期在十月廿二與廿三，有廿二個國家元首或政府首腦參加。中國總理趙紫陽，外長黃華和外次浦壽昌也出席。其他參加國家包括西德、法、日、加、英及巴西等。此會議目的在尋求消除貧富國家間彼此歧見，以解決世界問題。被邀國家中有八國是已開發國家，十四國是開發中的國家。

會議形式奇特。廿二國首要在薛瑞頓大飯店隔音大廳舉行，會中沒有議題程序，會後不發聯合公報。兩天會議以非正式座談方式進行。各國元首可以隨意自由交談。

美國國務院寄望雷根在會期中，有機會與趙紫陽面談，以瞭解兩國當前若干問題。中國現欲與印度改善關係，趙亦可與甘地夫人會面。

南北首腦會議中沒有邀請蘇聯及其東歐盟國。但南斯拉夫元首被邀。爲着美國堅決反對，墨西哥也沒有邀請古巴的加斯特洛總統。蘇聯在會議召開前夕，提出重開中蘇邊界談判要求，受到各方注意。

北京光明日報在十月十九日的一篇評論中，抨擊雷根總統對發展中的國家（較貧國家）的政策。指出如美國堅持自由貿易和私人投資的政策，對弱小國家不作積極的援助，將使美國在南北會議中異常孤立。

（本報訊）美前國防部長布朗上週訪北京，曾見鄧小平。布朗對在京美記者稱：「美中在大多數情況下有着平行的利益和非常一致的戰略觀點」。並稱中國副總參謀長劉華清推遲訪美，與美國供應中國武器技術上問題有關。

移民新規

（本報訊）上週衆議院通過法例，更改若干移民法規。主要者有㈠永久居留者（綠卡持有人）不必每年一月時登記，只要在搬家時通知移民局新住址。㈡移民局不能以攜帶大麻及與人通奸爲理由，拒絕外人入籍。㈢被遞解出境者不必往原來國家，而可往任何願意接受他的地區。㈣取消外人入籍時，需兩公民證明入籍者品行良好的規定。

現尚需參議院通過，總統簽准，才成法例。

大陪審團控文鮮明

（本報訊）紐約大陪審團上週控告統一教會領袖文鮮明報少稅。未將一九七三到七九年間一個戶口銀行利息所得一萬二千元及該教會設立之一家公司股票向內稅局申報。該教會負責人否認指控，認爲這是政府對文鮮明及統一教會的一種騷擾行動。

統一教會近在舊金山被控攜持一名愛爾蘭少女，家長自愛爾蘭飛來把少女帶回家。相似事件，層出不窮。今年三月該教會在倫敦一場官司中，敗給一家報刊，被判賠償一百五十萬美元。

文鮮明現在南韓云。

華人發現美洲大陸

（本報訊）華盛頓郵報記者最近著文指出美洲大陸是中國人發現的。該文說一九七五年冬潛水員在洛杉磯南部海岸發現一塊重二百八十磅圓形石塊。專家稱這是中國古代木船的石錨。去年潛水員又發現五個類似石錨及其他壓艙物。打撈現場附近找不到任何鐵鏈影跡，表示沉船年代之古遠。專家認爲中國人可能在二千多年前已抵美洲。

文章提及中國歷史記載公元前五世紀慧深和尚曾遠航數千里外「扶桑」地方。所述有如古代墨西哥。慧深說的扶桑本也像墨國的「龍吞蘭」云。

短聞

★本市中美雙語學校定本月廿三日星期五晚七時半至九時在拉古納街五十五號舉行酒會，以慶祝該校之成立。雙語學校爲一間私立學校，本學期開始授課，先開幼稚班，明年收一年級學生云。

★東北衛生服務處定十月廿一日下午一時邀高信基君舉辦「心懷開暢，促進精神健康」講座。廿二日下午一時邀林基碧女士講「婦女健康」。地點在士德頓街一五二〇號該處。

★屋崙華埠慈善金庫募捐運動本週開始，所得款項支持屋崙華人服務中心、亞洲法律聯誼會、青年會及屋崙華埠社區兒童中心等。去年籌得三千餘元，望今年成績更佳云。詳情電四六四—一九一三蕭柱君。

★第四衛生分局與新僑服務中心，定十月廿二星期四上午十時聯合主辦嬰兒健康比賽。在美臣街一四九〇號該局舉行。免費入場券在新僑服務中心備索。

★護兒資料中心定十月卅一日星期六上午十一時至中午十二時紀念萬靈節，爲兒童放映應時影片。老少咸宜。地點在委利賀街五七一號該中心。不收門券（三九一—八九九三）。

★美中友協舊金山灣區分會定十月廿三星期五下午五時半至七時在中華文化中心舉行招待會，歡迎中國人民對外友好協會主席王炳南到訪。

★爲新移民而設之「安居樂業」講座定十月廿四星期六上午九時半至十一時半講「如何乘搭公共交通工具」。地點在沙加緬度街（唐人街）九二〇號金美倫堂。不收門券。

★聯合中央儲貸會總裁譚炳城君主持之良好政府委員會定十月廿六在本市 Trader Vic 餐館舉行籌款餐會，支持譚君再度競選市議員，餐券每位二百五十元。

★新僑服務中心定十一月七、八兩天組團到加州著名赫士城堡旅遊，全程收費（包括車費、巴士觀光費、赫士城堡入場費及一晚住宿費用）一百十六元，行李及膳食自理。此團只限卅八位。報名地點：沙加緬度街八一六號該中心（四二一—〇九四三）。

★陳國樑醫師將在十月廿五星期日晚八時在華語廣播（廿六台）電視節目講解風濕性關節炎。此節目由東北衛生服務處贊助。

★華埠男青年會泳池每星期一至五下午三時至五時爲八至十二歲學童開放。自備泳衣、毛巾。收費每次五角。地點：沙加緬度街（唐人街）八五五號。

★聖瑪利中文學校校長及建東銀行副經理余河近獲教宗若望保祿二世頒授「耶路撒冷耶穌聖墓騎士勳章」，是教宗頒授神職人員及教友最高勳章。騎士會創立於中世紀，爲一歷史悠久國際性的教會組織。授勳禮定十月廿三至廿五在亞利桑拿州杜筍舉行，屆時教宗派專人到場主持典禮云。

☆柯達德製作之「美國一個華人小鎮」電視紀錄片定十月廿四星期六下午十一時半在沙加緬度市（二埠）第六電視台KCET播放。該片描述樂居鎮近況。

這類比賽好

（社論）今年本市新僑服務中心和市府第四區衛生局聯合首次舉辦「健康嬰兒比賽」，目的在「增進家長對嬰兒健康之認識及重視」。

美國各大城市華埠盛行「選美」歷久不衰，點綴農曆新年的慶賀，主要在吸引更多遊客，對社區建設不但沒有實質貢獻，而且增加治安當局的負擔，因此近年來不斷遭受批評。

此次「嬰兒健康比賽」性質完全不同，對華人家庭將有深遠的影響。因爲獲選嬰兒必須身體十分康健，同時父母也必須經常接受幼兒衛生的課堂指導。獲獎家庭不會名利雙收，但這項榮譽將鼓勵其他父母注意嬰兒衛生。

我們對舉辦「比賽」的機構鼓掌歡呼，他們創辦此項盛舉，不但促使父母注意自己兒女的健康，而且對全社區的衛生事業，也起了促進作用。